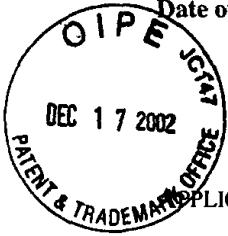


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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APPLICANTS: Gerlach et al.

SERIAL NUMBER: 09/898,586

EXAMINER: R. Li

FILING DATE: July 3, 2001

ART UNIT: 1645

FOR: NOVEL POLYPEPTIDES AND NUCLEIC ACIDS ENCODING SAME

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

13/8
M.G.J.
12/24/02

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO SEPTEMBER 17, 2002 OFFICE ACTION

In response to the Office Action dated September 17, 2002 ("Office Action"), Applicants file this amendment and response. With no extension of time, these documents are due on December 17, 2002. Please charge any additional payments or credit any overpayments of the same to Deposit Account No. 50-0311, reference 15966-638CIP (CURA-138CIP).

AMENDMENTS

In the Specification:

Please insert the replacement page 152, filed herewith as Appendix A, following page 151 in the specification as filed.

In the Claims:

Please replace the pending claim with the following:

19. (Twice Amended) A method for determining the presence or amount of a nucleic acid molecule in a sample, said nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 24, or the complement of said nucleic acid sequence,

said method comprising:

- (a) providing said sample;
- (b) introducing said sample to a probe that binds to said nucleic acid molecule; and

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